

Remarks

Applicant's response to the final Office Action mailed August 29, 2007 is below. Claims 1-9, 11-13, and 15-21 are currently pending in the application. Claims 13 and 15-21 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112. Claims 1-7, 9, 11-13, and 15-21 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a). Applicant thanks the Examiner for indicating that claim 8 is allowable.

I. Amendments

Claims 3-4 and 11-12 have been amended through this response, and claims 22-35 have been added. Applicant submits no new matter has been added. Claims 1-2, 6-7, 13, and 15-21 have been canceled without prejudice, waiver, or disclaimer. Applicant reserves the right to present these canceled claims or variants in continuing applications. Upon entry of the amendments, claims 3-5, 8-9, 11-12, and 22-35 will be pending in the application.

Applicant submits that each new claim is supported by the specification as filed. Specifically, support for claim 22 is found in paragraph [0030]. Support for claim 23 is found in paragraphs [0020], [0021], and [0035]. Support for claim 24 is found in paragraph [0020]. Support for claim 25 is found in paragraphs [0021] and [0022]. Support for claim 26 is found in paragraphs [0021] and [0022]. Support for claim 27 is found in paragraph [0022], as amended. Support for claim 28 is found in paragraph [0022]. Support for claim 29 is found in paragraphs [0023] to [0028]. Support for claim 30 is found in paragraph [0029]. Support for claim 31 is found in paragraphs [0030] and [0037]. Support for claim 32 is found in paragraph [0029]. Support for claim 33 is found in paragraph [0030] and [0037]. Support for claim 34 is found in paragraph [0030]. Support for claim 35 is found in paragraph [0037].

II. Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. § 112

Claims 13 and 15-21 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, for failing to comply with the written description requirement. Applicant has canceled the claims, rendering the rejection moot. Therefore, Applicant asks the Examiner to withdraw the rejection.

III. Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. 103

Claims 1-7, 9, 11-13, and 15-21 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a). Through this response, Applicant has canceled claims 1-2, 6-7, 13, and 15-21, rendering the rejection of these claims moot. The remaining dependent claims 3-5, 9, 11-12 have been amended to depend from claim 8, which the Examiner indicated is allowable. For at least this reason, Applicant submits these claims are patentable over the cited art, and Applicant asks the Examiner to withdraw the rejection.

Conclusion

Upon entry of the amendments described above, claims 3-5, 8, 9, 11, 12, and 22-35 will be pending in the application. Applicant submits the pending claims are novel and are not obvious over the references of record. Therefore, Applicant respectfully asks the Examiner to reconsider the objections and rejections and to allow each of the claims.

Applicant petitions under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a) for any extensions of time that are necessary to allow consideration of this response. Further, Applicant authorizes charging any fees to deposit account no. 19-5029. If the Examiner believes a telephone conversation would facilitate the examination of this application, Applicant invites the Examiner to call the Attorney below at any time.

Respectfully submitted,



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